climate change. The information in the IPCC report are not prescriptive and are only policy relevant. The reports are utilized by the Member countries in the context of their national circumstances.

Mangroves in the country

1135. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the mangroves are on the decrease in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the decrease affect environmental degradation;

(d) whether there is any plan to protect the mangroves in the country;

(e) whether Government of Kerala submitted proposal for the conservation of mangroves in Vembanad and Kannur region; and

(f) if so, the details along with the action taken thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (c) As per the State of Forest Report 2005, published by Forest Survey of India, the mangrove cover of the country which was 4448 km2 in 2003, has reduced to 4445 km2 in 2005 *i.e.* there has been a marginal decrease of 3 sq. km. During the same period, there was an increase in the mangrove areas in Gujarat from 916 sq. km. to 936 sq. km. to 936 sq. km. However, there was reduction in the area in Andaman and Nicobar Islands from 658 sq. km. to 637 sq. km. and in West Bengal from 2120 sq. km. to 2118 sq. km. This is mainly because of the tsunami that hit Andaman and Nicobar Islands on 26 December, 2004. Gujarat has shown an increase in mangrove cover mainly because of plantation and protection measures. Mangroves play an important role in coastal ecology, and protecting the coastal areas from the impact of tidal waves but the extent of protection is variable and is a function of several factors.

(d) The mangroves are protected through a range of regulatory measures such as Environment Protection Act (1986), the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification (1991) issued under the said Act, the Indian Forest Act (1927) and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The protection of mangroves is also ensured through the monitoring of compliance of conditions imposed while according Environmental Clearance by Regional offices of the Ministry and State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs) and through the enforcement of emission and effluent standards by industries and other entities by the SPCBs.

(e) and (f) The Ministry and sanctioned the Management Action Plan (MAP) for conservation and management of mangroves in Kannur, Kerala at a total cost of Rs. 49.21/- lakh and that for Vembanad mangroves for Rs.51.25/- lakh for implementation by the State Government during 2006-07. Based on the Utilization Certificates submitted by Government of Kerala, an unspent balance of Rs.11.52/- lakh has been carried forward from previous to the current financial year for completing the balance works of the MAP of 2006-07 for

mangroves at Kannur. Similarly, a sum of Rs.10.25/- lakh has been released and Rs.1.35/- lakh have been revalidated during current financial year to enable the Government of Kerala to complete the balance works of MAP of 2006-07 for conservation and management of mangroves at Vembanad.

New tiger reserve

1136. SHRI BHAGIRATHI MAJHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has released any fund to the new tiger reserve for their development in the country;

(b) if so, the total amount released to each new tiger reserve projects during last four years;

(c) whether Satkosia Wildlife Sanctuary Tiger Reserve of Orissa has received any fund to develop the project according to other tiger reserve site; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, financial assistance is being provided to the eight new tiger reserves, approved in 2008, for tiger protection and management. Details of financial assistance provided to these reserves are given in the Statement. (*See* below)

(c) and (d) Financial assistance has not been provided to the Satkosia Tiger Reserve so far, under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, for want of the required Memorandum of Understanding from the State Government of Orissa.

Statement

Details of financial assistance given to New Tiger Reserves

Sl. No.	Name of new Tiger Reserve	State	Amount (Rs. In lakhs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Satkosia Tiger Reserve	Orissa	75.00
2.	Dandeli-Anshi Tiger Reserve	Kanataka	60.00
3.	Mudumalai Tiger Reserve	Tamil Nadu	60.00
4.	Anamalai-Parambikulam Tiger Reserve	Tamil Nadu-Kerala	80.00
5.	Kaziranga Tiger Reserve	Assam	150.00